

Thank you very much.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KLECZKA. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for yielding.

I rise, Ed, on behalf of myself, but also on behalf of the Minority Leader, DICK GEPHARDT; our Whip, DAVID BONIOR; the Chairman of our Caucus, VIC FAZIO, and the Vice Chairman of our Caucus, BARBARA KENNELLY, and all the other leadership and Members on our side of the aisle.

Ed Nichols has chosen well for the Eastern Shore. Now, I represent the Western Shore, and WAYNE GILCHREST is not here, but I am sure that WAYNE would swell with pride and be delighted, Ed, that you are going to spend many years of full enjoyment of not only the Shore, but of the many recreational opportunities it has. As the gentleman from Wisconsin has said, and the majority leader said, a house full of relatives and friends.

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Far too often, as I have said so many times on this floor, the public turns on C-Span and they see confrontation. Sometimes they even see vitriol directed at one another.

What they do not see often enough is the human relationships of which the gentlewoman from Washington [Ms. DUNN] spoke. What they do not see is the commitment and dedication of the folks who sit at the desk and stand on the floor to ensure that in the context of the confrontation of philosophies and ideas, that there is a semblance of order which allows us to do the people's business, which allows this people's House to act in the finest traditions of democracy. It is people who, as has been said before, like Ed Nichols, dedicated to his country, dedicated to this institution.

Ed Nichols has served under 5 Speakers of the House: Speaker Albert, Speaker O'Neill, Speaker Wright, Speaker Foley, and now Speaker GINGRICH. He has served, as my colleagues can tell from listening to the comments made by both sides of the aisle, by Members more liberal, by Members more conservative, he has dealt with each of us in an evenhanded, positive fashion, reaching out to us to assist us in representing to the very best of our abilities the people of our constituencies. And in so doing, he has made a very significant and lasting contribution to the strength of this country and the strength of this institution.

Ed, we will miss you from this floor. We will not forget you. We hope you will return often for that smile and the warm word, the handshake, the nod of encouragement. It meant a great deal to all of us. God bless and Godspeed.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KLECZKA. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, because I am pleased, and yet I am mournful of the fact that Ed Nichols is leaving us in this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I have had people say to me, when they have watched C-Span, they have called and said, who is that good-looking, gray-haired man who brings in the mace? And I think to myself, Ed Nichols, of course.

In fact, somebody even asked me where you lived, Ed. I really wanted to say he is my constituent. He lives in Montgomery County, Maryland. But unfortunately for me, he is moving to the Eastern Shore, to another part of Maryland, but for me he will always be not only my constituent, but my very good friend.

He has seen a lot of things happen in his 20-plus years, his 2 decades plus 1 here on this House floor, and he also has a great sense of humor, and I often think that as we enter the Chamber, there is a statue of Will Rogers there and he is kind of looking down, sort of smiling.

I remember something that Will Rogers said, not because I was there, but I remember reading about Will Rogers making the statement that Congress is a place where somebody speaks and says nothing, nobody listens, and everybody disagrees.

Well, I do not know. I think we have our man here who could give testimony to the fact that a lot of good things do happen in this Chamber. I know that we will always remember the fact that he was there, as has been mentioned, ready to help us, ready to smile, to say everything is going to be fine, this is the way it is done, and very professional, very professional and dignified in all that he did. He made this station be exactly what it should be: One where all of us can look up to what he has done.

So Ed, we appreciate your sense of humor, your professionalism, your dignity, your fairness. On both sides of the aisle we can see tremendous testimony given to you. I will be very careful about those speed bumps in your neighborhood. I do not know whether they have them on the Eastern Shore or not, probably not.

But quite candidly, I will miss you, my colleagues will miss you, and we hope that you have a grand time. As Emerson said to Thoreau, "I meet you at the beginning of a new adventure." May you enjoy your adventure, because you certainly left an impact here. Thank you. Godspeed.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KLECZKA. I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I began my service in this body as a member of the staff, and I have great respect and particular appreciation for those who serve to support this institution and support the Members and guide them, point them in the right

path, and that is what Ed Nichols has been for all of us. He has been a safe haven in a storm, and when things were swirling about and there was confusion on the floor, many is the Member who sought the quiet refuge and the steady hand of Ed Nichols off in the corner, explaining what had happened, predicting what was about to happen, and apologizing when it did not happen that way.

He understands the institutions, he understood each of us and our specific needs, and he responded in a very special and unique way. But the treasure, for all of the kind and wonderful things that others have said about Ed Nichols, the treasure I will carry with me is the treasure of his friendship, the warmth and the caring of a very special person.

I recall when my wife Jo passed away and Ed was there to help with the arrangements for the Mass of Resurrection. For all those who came to pay their respects, he made it all happen in a very orderly and respectful manner, as he has conducted himself in this office that he holds and which he is about to leave.

Adlai STEVENSON, addressing a graduating class, said, "As you leave, remember why you came." Ed will never forget why he came. He came to serve. We thank you for that service.

Mr. KLECZKA. So Ed, on behalf of all of your friends here in the House of Representatives, let me thank you for your 21 years of dedicated service. May you enjoy your retirement in good health and with God's blessing, and know that when I have the annual get-together in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with kielbasa, you are always invited.

LIST OF REPUBLICAN MEMBERS SELECTED TO SERVE AS "POOL" FOR PURPOSES RELATING TO COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 6 of rule X, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members to serve as need on investigative subcommittees as prescribed by the recently enacted ethics reforms:

Mr. BATEMAN of Virginia.
Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee.
Mr. DEAL of Georgia.
Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
Mr. MCCREY of Louisiana.
Mr. MCKEON of California.
Mr. MILLER of Florida.
Mr. PORTMAN of Ohio.
Mr. TALENT of Missouri.
Mr. THORNBERRY of Texas.

LIST OF DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS SELECTED TO SERVE AS "POOL" FOR PURPOSES RELATING TO COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule X, the Chair lays before the House the following communication: